

Spacecraft-to-Earth Communications for Juno and Mars Science Laboratory Critical Events

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Outline

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- Mars Science Laboratory
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- Simulations of MSL EDL
- Conclusions

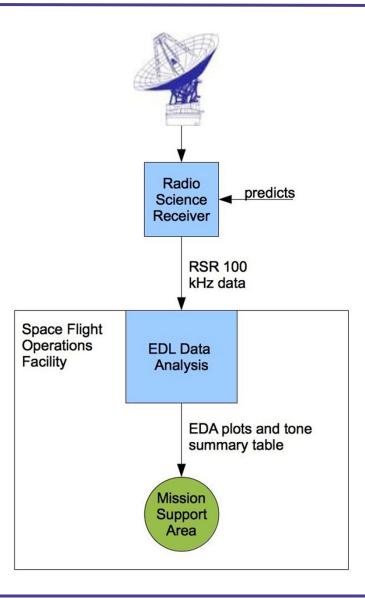


Introduction

- Deep Space communications typically utilize closed loop receivers and Binary Phase Shift Keying (BPSK) or Quadrature Phase Shift Keying (QPSK)
- Critical spacecraft events include orbit insertion and entry, descent, and landing
 - Low gain antennas -> low signal-to-noise-ratio
 - High dynamics such as parachute deployment or spin -> Doppler shift
- During critical events, open loop receivers and Multiple Frequency Shift Keying (MFSK) used
- Entry, Descent, Landing (EDL) Data Analysis (EDA) system detects tones in real-time



System Design





System Design

- Tone detection is accomplished using an FFT-based frequency and frequency rate loop on the carrier
- Each critical event is divided into time segments with different signal dynamics: cruise, entry, parachute deployment, bridle and bouncing, landing
- Real time- maximum performance with minimum latency
- 4 EDA systems:
 - 2 for MSL
 - 2 for Juno



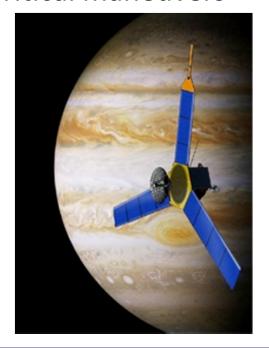




- Launched August 5, 2011
- Cruise time to Jupiter is about 5 years
- Uses an Earth-Gravity-Assist that relies on deep space maneuvers about a year after launch
- Torroidal Low Gain Antenna used for critical maneuvers

Table 1- Planned dates of Juno EDA Usage

Event	Date
Tones Tests	September 7, 2011
Deep Space Maneuvers	September 2012
Jupiter Orbit Insertion	July 4-5, 2016
Period Reduction Maneuver	October/November 2016





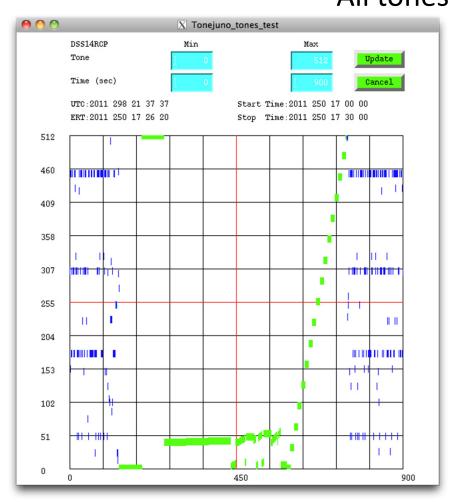
Juno Tones Tests

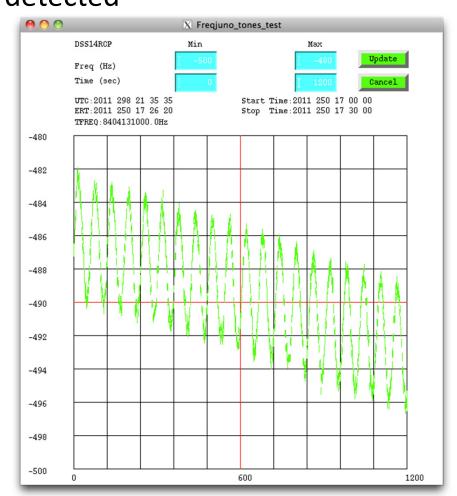
- In-flight tones test took place on September 7, 2011
- Tones may be high or low priority
- High priority tones must be >= 3 sec in duration
- Tones test sequence included 4 cases:
 - Basic Tones: complete range of 1-512, adjacent frequencies
 - Prioritization: high and low priority tones in rapid succession
 - Sustained Sequence: 10 tones, each emitted for 3 seconds
 - Flurry of Tones: mix of high and low priority tones
- Three tests took place:
 - A: DSS-14
 - B: DSS-14 and DSS-43
 - C: DSS-43



Juno Tones Tests Results

Pc/No of 50 dB-Hz, 1 RPM spin All tones detected

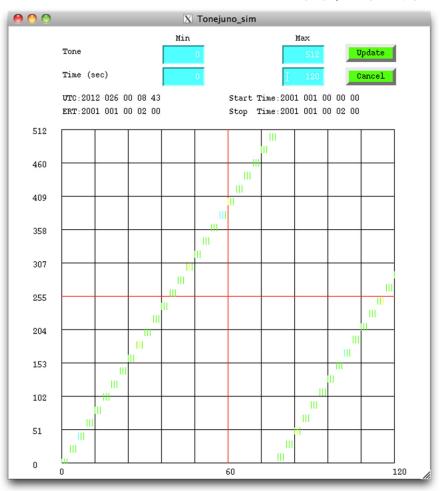


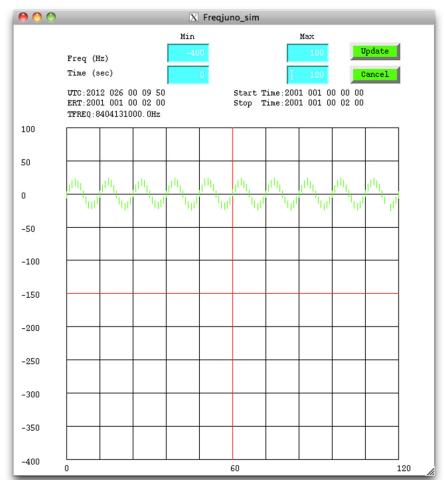




Simulations of Juno JOI

Pc/No of 12-15 dB-Hz, 5 RPM spin expected >98% of tones detected







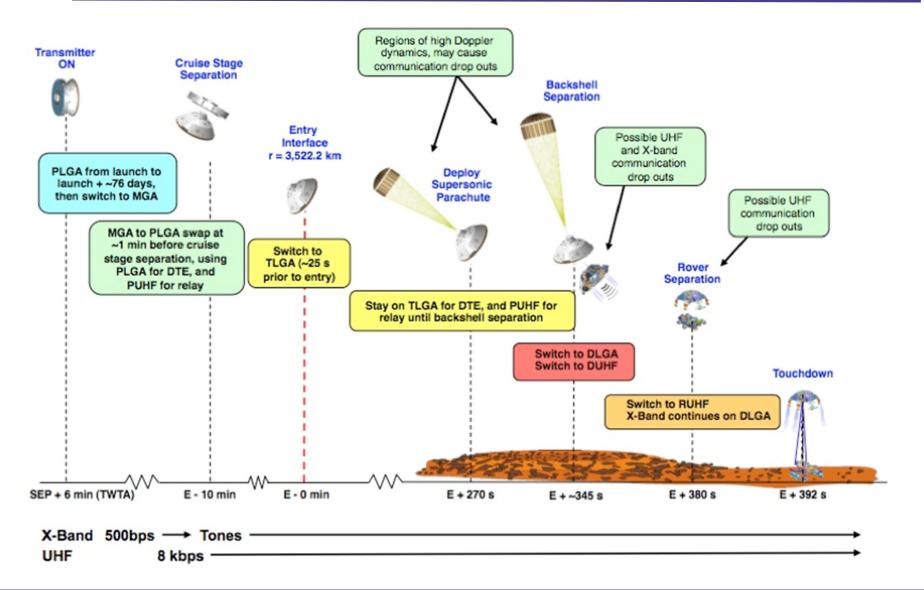
Mars Science Laboratory

- Launched on November 26, 2011
- Entry, Descent, and Landing on Mars on August 5, 2012
- Direct-To-Earth communications during EDL will utilize X-band.
 Relay communications to Mars Odyssey will utilize UHF.
- UHF communications blackout due to plasma during entry.
- Low gain antennas used:
 - Parachute Low Gain Antenna (PLGA)
 - Titled Low Gain Antenna (TLGA)
 - Descent Low Gain Antenna (DLGA)





Mars Science Laboratory Entry, Descent, and Landing



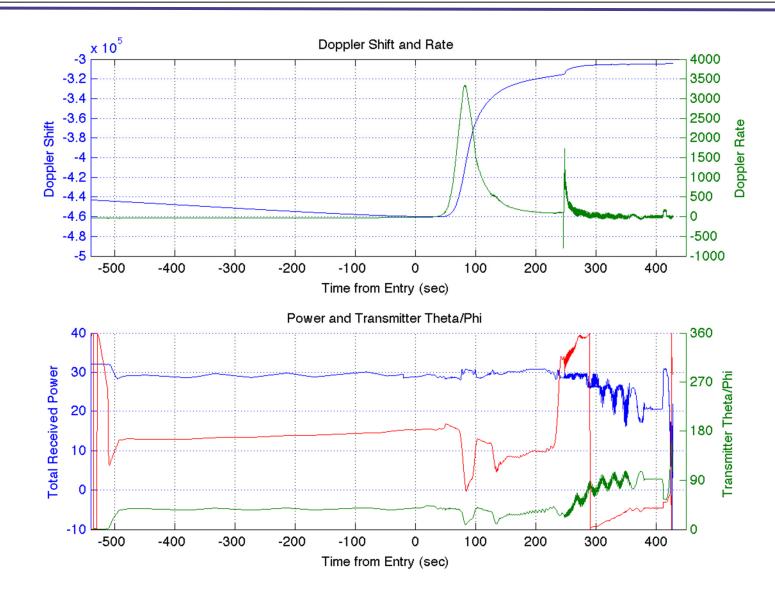


MSL Test Bed Tones Tests

- Fiber link from MSL Test bed to Portable Radio Science Receiver -> EDA
- Four MSL Test Bed tones tests took place in February
 - Nominal case
 - Thermal faults
 - Power Analog Module failure
 - Failure of Guided entry
- All tones detected
- Pc/No as low as 20 dB-Hz but no dynamics

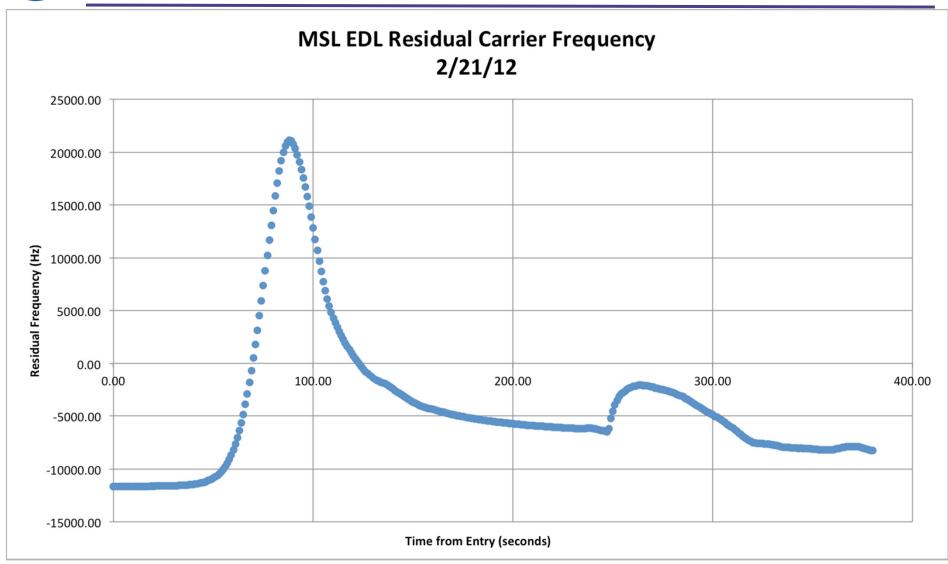


MSL EDL Doppler and Doppler Shift





Simulations of MSL EDL





Conclusions

- EDA software successfully ported to new hardware
- EDA configuration files developed for Juno
- 100% of tones detected in Juno in-flight tones tests
- >98% of tones detected in Juno JOI simulations
- 100% of tones detected in MSL Test Bed tones tests
- EDA configuration files for MSL EDL currently in development